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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Some Important Happenings in the South

THAT MAY PLEASE OUR READERS

An Assortment of Newsworthy Events That Occurred in our Midst That Cannot Fail to Interest.

The Santa Fe is bringing in a large number of overland passengers. Everything on the incoming limited is booked for the next six weeks.

The Seventh California, during its stay at San Francisco, had troubles of its own, but the First Tennessee seems to be devoted to the business of making troubles for other people.

Chief Engineer Dun of the Santa Fe has inspected the work now in progress on the Valley road, which meets with his approval. The big Franklin tunnel is cut through nearly half way.

Santa Barbara boasts of a political organization called the Mind Your Own Business Club. It is not easy to find a field for that kind of organization in politics. Perhaps the title is directed at the other fellows.

The temperance people of Ventura county, headed by Rev. R. T. Forbes, are soliciting funds for the crusade against the saloons. Already a large sum has been subscribed for this purpose, and a bitter contest is expected.

It is a little early for mountain lion stories; nevertheless, John Jackson of Ventura county by setting a calf and a bear trap, and sitting himself at a convenient distance with his trusty rifle for a companion, bagged two large animals of this variety a couple of weeks ago.

The report of the president of Pomona college shows a very encouraging condition of things at that institution. During the past year a standing debt of \$60,000 has been liquidated, and, aside from this, the assets of the college are nearly \$100,000 greater than they were one year ago.

The harness racing season is over and neither the trotting or pacing record which stood at the beginning of the season has been eclipsed. There is considerable disappointment among horse men, who believe that to stand still is to retrograde. The two-minute trotter is still in the future.

The fact that Southern California is about to enter upon a season of unusual prosperity seems to be appreciated in Redlands. As a consequence real estate is booming and about as many transfers are being made there as in all the rest of the county. By and by other sections will fall into line.

Los Angeles is not alone in worrying over the increase in divorces. The Kansas City Star of October 14 said: "On Tuesday the circuit judges granted almost as many divorces as there were marriages." The Star, however, finds consolation in the strong probability that the divorcees will all marry again.

The assets of Pomona College, according to the annual report of the president, apart from the subscriptions which provide for the debt, are as follows: Endowment fund, \$100,000; campus, buildings and equipment, \$50,000; lots in Claremont, \$12,000; Dr. Pierson's pledge of Science Hall, \$25,000.

The cost of fighting this season's fires in the Sierra Madres will, it is stated, amount to over \$10,000. Had this amount been expended in proper precautionary measures there probably would have been no fires, and many square miles of timber, constituting a valuable watershed, would not have been destroyed.

Provision is made for San Pedro harbor in the estimate of General John M. Wilson, Chief of Engineers, for the next fiscal year. The harbor project now has an authorized standing before the country and in the provisions made by the government. The actual beginning of the work should be the signal to celebrate. There is "money in the bank" for the work of the present fiscal year.

The boys in Manila have sent a request by Rev. Francis B. Doherty, C. S. P., staff chaplain of the troops stationed there, for reading matter in the nature of papers and magazines. The rates of postage are the same as to points in the United States and mail addressed to Rev. Francis Doherty, C. S. P., chaplain United States army, Casa del Secretario, Molacanan, Manila, Philippine Islands, will be sure to reach its destination.

Governor Smith of the Soldiers' Home, who was shot several weeks ago by A. G. Bradley, an inmate of the home, has now fully recovered from the effects of his wounds and is again doing his usual work at the home. On his arrival at his office in the headquarters building at the home, he was met by all the head officers and escorted into the building, while the

band and a large gathering of soldiers gave him a rousing serenade.

Juana Razon, an Indian woman, was found dead in a hut on C street, San Bernardino. The woman had been living in the place with several other squaws for some time past, and after her death her companions gathered about the corpse, where they remained several days, refusing to bury the body because all the Indian burying grounds had been taken from them by the government and superstition kept them from burying the dead woman in unhallowed ground. After an inquest had been held over the remains they were buried in the city cemetery.

The test of the new steam lemon-curing plant at San Diego has ended. Several boxes of lemons which were taken out showed that the plant did all that was claimed for it. The green lemons had turned yellow, the rind was cured and the citric acid retained its full strength. H. K. Pratt, a prominent lemon broker of Redlands, has made arrangements to ship a carload of lemons to the East this morning, the car to consist of both steam-cured and natural cured lemons. This will demonstrate the keeping qualities of the steam-cured lemons as compared with the lemons cured by the natural process.

The superior intelligence of the horse is demonstrated by the following, from the Pasadena Star: There was a lively runaway on Union street this morning, a horse belonging to A. Nicholas getting frightened at the Republican advertising wagon. He dashed down the thoroughfare colliding with a wagon in front of Schneider & Black's blacksmith shop, where the animal fell and was captured. Several dollars' worth of damage to the rig resulted. Narrow-minded and unthinking newspapers will probably commend the horse for getting scared at the Republican wagon; whereas the beauty of the whole episode lies in the fact that the animal stopped in front of a blacksmith's shop for repairs.

A Santa Barbara man has this to say in the Santa Barbara News regarding a good highway in that county: The finest roads in this county, according to Mr. Russell, are those in and about Lompoc. The long avenue of nine miles to Surf is as smooth as a road well can be. It is hard and absolutely dustless—a pleasure to the eye and a delight to ride over. It is sprinkled at a cost of \$2.50 per day, and the man who does the sprinkling also attends to the series of windmills which pump the water. At convenient distances are troughs filled with clear, cool water, a benediction to men and beast. The intention now is to plant a line of eucalyptus trees on either side of this long avenue, which, in a little while, will make it famous, and at the same time furnish a lot of trees that will be worth treble what the whole work cost.

President Ripley of the Santa Fe and party have arrived in Los Angeles from San Francisco. It is probable they will make a complete inspection of the Southern California division of the Santa Fe. It is very possible that Col. P. is not making any bluff at all, but intends to go ahead and build his Salt Lake and Los Angeles line. The Los Angeles Times intimates that the Vanderbilts, through the Union Pacific, which controls the Oregon Short Line, may be reaching for the coast. This would give the Vanderbilt company a line from one coast to the other, which would not be affected by the recent Supreme Court decision. The Southern Pacific's present Sunset route to the East is not a very direct line, and if they had a line between Los Angeles and Salt Lake it would give them a direct outlet to the East. The Southern Pacific surveying party, under J. Long, is making rapid progress in their work, and in the meantime railroad people are exceedingly interested in the situation.

An interesting incident of the forest fires is related by the San Diego Union. A rancher in the Descanso neighborhood was searching in the burnt district for his cattle. When he found them they were in the company of a deer, three wildcats, a coyote and several rabbits, all alive and apparently in no fear of him. They watched his approach with indifference, the timidity gone from the big-eyed deer, no venom in the wildcats' purr, and honesty shining in the gray coyote's face. The rabbits sat on their haunches, as meek as the pets of children. But the poor coyote was in pain, and as the farmer came close the erstwhile robber of the roost dragged his helpless hind-quarters toward the man in mute supplication. The rancher at once drove his stock through the smoldering brush, the deer going along with the cattle, the rabbits hopping along at the rancher's heels, the wildcats slouching along behind, and the coyote unable to follow, whining a pathetic appeal for succor. When the burning field was passed the deer broke into a run for the distant hills, the rabbits were away like a flash, and the old defiance and snarling leer came back to the wildcats, who scorned to make a show of haste. They walked slowly out of sight. Only the poor coyote was prevented from returning to his kin.

PACIFIC COAST NEWS

Important Information Gathered Around the Coast.

ITEMS OF GENERAL INTEREST.

A Summary of Late Events That Are Botted Down to Suit our Busy Readers.

Large numbers of counterfeit \$100 silver certificates have been produced in San Francisco.

The statement of the sealing industry shows a total of but 27,865 skins, the lightest catch in many years.

William A. Melville, sentenced to San Quentin for embezzlement, has been released through the efforts of his friends.

Ben Wandell, a rancher who disappeared from his home near Mt. Hamilton, has been found. He was wildly crazy and ran for three miles before he could be caught.

Passengers on the Cottage City, just arrived at Victoria, report the Yukon full of ice and travel to Dawson suspended. Also that a new lake has been discovered in the Atlin country.

Pardo Lucero, alias "El Vaquero," died at the County Hospital at Salinas last week. Records of the Mission of Los Angeles and Soledad show him to be 125 years old. He came from Sonora, Mex.

The grand jury at San Francisco has been asked to indict Mrs. Botkin. The District Attorney has placed before them all the evidence and hopes for immediate action. The authorities will endeavor to have her tried in this state.

Miss Eva Blankart and Col. Frederick Funston, 20th Kansas regiment, were married last week at the home of the bride in Oakland. Col. Funston has since left for Manila, and his wife will follow on the first passenger steamer.

The Spring Valley Water Works of Oakland has conveyed to the Union Trust company of San Francisco property to the value of \$4,000,000 in consideration of that amount of third-mortgage bonds. The war revenue stamps affixed amounted to \$2000.

The first Pullman coach has arrived for the Oregon Short Line. It is a brand new car, and is full of devices for the comfort of the passengers. The inside is fitted up in mahogany in varied shades and the berths and seats are highly polished. The car is 72 feet long and has 12 sections. It will be placed on the Butte division of the road.

Receipts of wine and brandy at San Francisco during the first nine months of the year were as follows, compared with the same period in 1897: Of wine, 11,383,300 gallons, against 8,371,900; of brandy, 176,950, against 94,715. The exports of wine from that port by sea during the first nine months of 1898 were 3,565,000 gallons, against 3,566,000 in 1897.

The Gardener party of Fresno and the White party of Michigan have returned to Vancouver from the Peace River country, have spent all they had and found nothing which they could carry away. There was gold everywhere, but so fine it floated on water, and there was not enough to pay. The only pay creek in the country has been sold to Englishman for \$20,000.

George Lavigne and Tom Tracy, two of the most widely known pugilists of their class in the world, have signed to box twenty rounds before the National Athletic club of San Francisco on the night of November 22. It is agreed that each man shall weigh 142 pounds or less "at the ring side," and it is further stipulated that the referee shall be selected twenty-four hours before the time set for entering the ring.

The Sacramento Bee pokes a little fun at the college boys, as follows: It has become quite a fad of late to have students from the Stanford and Berkeley universities speak at public meetings for the candidates for governor. We have read their speeches so far in this campaign, and can scarcely help the conclusion that Maguire put up the boys to make the speeches which they did for Gage, and that Gage was guilty of the orations which the collegians endeavored to palm off as arguments for Maguire.

The Golden Gate and C. C. Cheny have arrived at Port Townsend from the mouth of Copper river. M. J. Garrety of San Francisco has spent a year in vain search for gold. He says native float copper has been found on China river and a party will remain there to prospect. Nicholi, talking chief of the Copper river Indians, claims to know the location of the deposit, but refuses to guide people to it. The Indians use it for ornaments

and utensils, and do not want the whites to limit their supply.

Exports from San Francisco during the first nine months of the year were valued at \$25,078,500, against \$28,775,500 for the same time in 1897, and were principally divided as follows: To Great Britain, \$5,910,500; Atlantic ports, \$2,102,700; China, \$2,694,600; Japan, \$3,149,600; Africa, \$1,120,000; Australia, \$1,145,000; Mexico, \$1,129,800; Central America, \$1,352,200; Hawaiian Islands, \$4,174,000. The dry season is not yet felt in the loss of shipments from the state to any great extent. From now on the records will show a loss.

The Indiana has sailed for Manila with the First and Second battalions of the Kansas regiment on board. The First and Third battalions of the First Washington have gone forward on the Ohio. Colonel Funston is in command of the former expedition and Colonel Wholly of the latter. The Fifty-first Iowa has been assigned to the Pennsylvania, which vessel will carry all of the regiment. The Zealandia will be ready this week. To this vessel will be assigned the Third battalion of the Kansas regiment and possibly a battalion of the Tennessee regiment. With the departure of the Zealandia and Newport there will be left of the troops only about 200 men who will be sent on a small vessel.

The \$3,579,914 in sovereigns and gold bullion brought up from Australia by the last steamer to San Francisco makes \$32,283,643 from that country since August, 1897. All of this treasure is coined into American money and goes to swell the circulation. An important point is that it affects exchange rates between there and the coast, raising them to an unusual figure. This influence has been felt at all points on the coast all the time since August a year ago. The gold comes to pay English debts to America and the clearing house for the business is in New York. London owes New York for foodstuffs. Australia owes England for merchandise. The English merchant ships gold over from Melbourne to New York via San Francisco. New York bankers try to get bills on San Francisco while they discharge with this Australian money and thus save the transfer across the continent.

FRESH FROM PORTO RICO.

A California Boy Just Returned From Fighting the Spaniards.

Occasionally a soldier or two drift in fresh from battlefields where Spaniards and bullets were plentiful. Of this kind is Corporal H. Luhr, who called at Red Cross headquarters at Los Angeles to tell the Red Cross people what wonders the society worked in the hospitals in Cuba.

Corporal Luhr is an Oakland boy, of the Gates-Lewellen Light Battery, which is composed of men from California, Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado. The battery was outfitted by a Mr. Lewellen of Denver and is commanded by Colonel Gates of Oakland.

Corporal Luhr is on a sixty-day furlough issued at Ponce September 25th, so that one can almost notice the scent of powder about him, and he carries the scar of a Mauser bullet that grazed him above the eye and left him unconscious for forty-eight hours.

"I spent between two and three weeks before Santiago," says Soldier Luhr, "and then we went to Porto Rico."

"Yes, the weather in Cuba was something awful, and there was lots of sickness. The climate in Porto Rico is much better, but the boys carried the disease along with them. We had a pretty tough time making our way along the Cuban roads, the only ones there being built by American soldiers, and they were sometimes actually running rivers of water. The roads in Porto Rico are not so muddy but they are wicked in places, thickly covered with prickly chapparal, which was full of Spaniards, for when they left Ponce they retreated inch by inch."

"Yes, we had pretty nearly enough to eat, such as it was. I have as a souvenir the label of the first piece of bacon issued to us in Porto Rico, and it was the best in the world. Our provisions were usually twenty-four to forty-eight hours behind us, and we were in luck when we got a meal a day. Sometimes we'd make a kick to the commissary sergeant and make him rustle us something."

"Our time was divided, we had eight hours picket duty, eight hours labor, digging trenches, and eight hours sleep."

"The colored troops were fine. Not half enough has been said of them. The Rough Riders were all right, but the Ninth Cavalry, which was detached to help them made the top of the hill first, I've been told."

"But we all wished we had had General Miles in command in Cuba. Every man in the army would like to have had him; he is a favorite with them all."

Corporal Luhr refuses to say why they don't like Gen. Shafter, for he remembers that he is a soldier now, but he hints that he will have something to say when Uncle Sam is through with him.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

News of the State, Nation and the World

Also Interesting News Items of The War

Fannie Davenport's estate, supposed to be valued at \$600,000, proves to be worth \$75,000. No one can say where the balance has gone.

Chicago makes the best of its bad climate. The Record says: Celebrating peace amid the warfare of elements is a useful test of patriotism, at least.

Ryan College burned last week. Two hundred pupils were in the building. All escaped. It was one of the best buildings in the Indian territory.

The American liner Paris, known during the war as the auxiliary cruiser Yale, resumed her place as a merchant steamer when she sailed for Southampton.

Some of the cannon captured at Santiago are now on their way to the United States. These pieces will be stored at Governor's Island until disposed of by Congress.

The louder the international talk for universal peace the more energetic the work on new war ships and improved death-dealing guns goes on, the New York Press discovers.

Mrs. Richard Cooper, the last surviving daughter of James Fenimore Cooper, the novelist, is dead at her home in Cooperstown, N. Y.

We frequently see the statement that our soldiers in Cuba are "dying like flies." That's very satisfactory; who ever heard of a fly dying, anyway? asks the Chicago Times-Herald.

Hobson keeps on bringing up Spanish ships to the surface of the water. He is a bright young man who appreciates the force of the maxim that there is always room at the top.

The cruiser Buffalo has left the New York navy yard for Manila under "rush orders." She will go by way of Suez Canal and it is expected she will arrive at Manila before the Oregon and Iowa.

It is announced that an excellent cigar can be bought anywhere in Porto Rico for 2 cents. That settles it, exclaims the San Francisco Bulletin. We'll never give that island back to Spain.

"It seems natural for Americans to work all day," the Cubans say, amazed. The Cubans have yet to learn that working all day is one of the blessings conferred by freedom and prosperity.

L. Z. Leiter has given to his daughter, Lady Curzon of Kedleston, the property of No. 1 Carlton House Terrace, London, a magnificent residence in an exclusive locality, which cost \$200,000.

Japan's new cruiser, the Kasaga, was turned over to the Japanese government by the Cramps last week. She went at once into commission and Commander N. Kashievakra ran up the Mikado's flag.

Twenty-one Generals were dropped from the United States army several days ago, and as yet no European country has taken advantage of our defenseless condition to annihilate us, says the Denver Republican.

Young Jesse James would not have formed the habit of train robbery, perhaps, if the Missouri newspapers had ceased to tell their readers what a noble-hearted man his father was, remarks the Chicago Inter Ocean.

Cotton buyers of Dallas on foreign orders say that owing to the threatened war between England and France they have received cables saying: "All shipments from this date until otherwise instructed must be made subject to war risks."

Spain has protested against the sailing of the Oregon and the Iowa for Manila. The dons are hardly to be blamed. Their brief meeting with the ships of Clark and Evans was not of a nature calculated to inspire a wish for further acquaintance.

The New York clearing house has just completed the forty-fifth year of its existence. In forty-five years it has become the vital nerve of American commerce, its transactions since October, 1853, amounting to \$1,229,000,000. The transactions of last year amount in round numbers to \$42,000,000,000.

The award of the Chief Justice of Canada, to whose arbitration was submitted the claim of Victor H. McCord against the government of Peru for damages sustained by reason of imprisonment during one of the revolutionary outbreaks there, has been received at the state department. McCord is awarded \$40,000. The payment of this amount will close a diplomatic controversy which has been in progress between the United States and Peru for six years, this government having persistently but fruitlessly heretofore urged reparation for McCord.